

NBII - Bird Conservation Node Web Mapping Application

Background



The National Biological Information Infrastructure (NBII) www.nbii.gov is an electronic information network that provides access to biological data and information on our nation's plants, animals, and ecosystems. Data and information maintained by federal, state, and local government agencies; non-government organizations; and private-sector organizations are linked through the NBII gateway and made accessible to a variety of audiences including researchers, natural resource managers, decision-makers, educators, students and other private citizens.

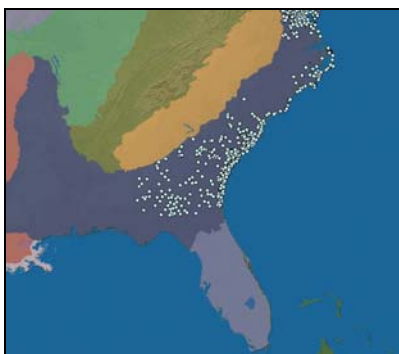
Implementation of the NBII is being accomplished through the development of nodes that serve as interconnected entry points to the NBII and the information held by partners. These nodes function as fully digital, distributed, and interactive systems that focus on developing, acquiring, and managing content on a defined subject area (thematic nodes) or a geographic region (regional nodes). One of the thematic nodes being developed in 2001 is the Bird Conservation Node. This node provides access to data and information in support of bird conservation across North America.

Bird Conservation Node

The main focus of the Bird Conservation Node is to provide web access to bird population and habitat data utilized in bird management and conservation, as well as to provide information that promotes public awareness of bird conservation issues in North America.

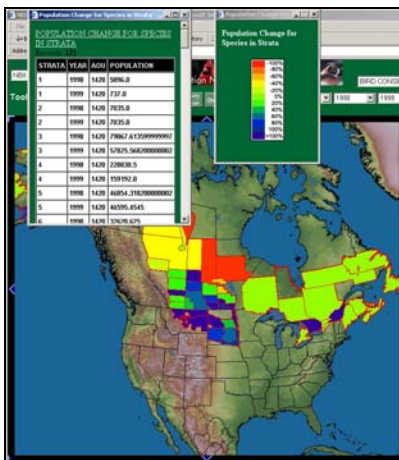
Effective planning and evaluation of integrated bird conservation activities require an understanding of how bird populations respond to habitats at local, regional, and continental scales. By providing rapid access to bird population

and habitat data, the node will support planning and evaluation of bird conservation activities within the North American Bird Conservation Initiative (NABCI), a framework for collaboration among organizations interested in bird conservation throughout North America.



Locations of water bird colonies identified during various survey efforts. Presently, only data from the Atlantic coastal states are provided.

The Bird Conservation Node is being developed as a collaborative activity among the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Division of the Bird Habitat Conservation and Division of Migratory Bird Management, and the USGS Center for Biological Informatics.



Three spatial layers comprise this long-term waterfowl breeding population survey conducted annually.

Application

The USGS Rocky Mountain Mapping Center developed a prototype web-based mapping application that links maps of the continental United States, Alaska, Canada and Mexico to databases from the North American Breeding Bird Survey (USGS), Colonial Waterbird Survey (USGS), Breeding Waterfowl Population and Habitat Survey (USFWS) and the Atlantic Flyway Mid-winter Waterfowl Survey (USFWS). The prototype mapping application allows users to adjust the geographic scale of the map to visualize data collection locations for each survey in relation to the NABCI's Bird Conservation Regions or BCR's, political boundaries, and basic land cover. This information lets the user query and retrieve raw data from each database at the geographic scale that meets their specific needs.



For more information

NBII Bird Conservation Node

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Mapping Application

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